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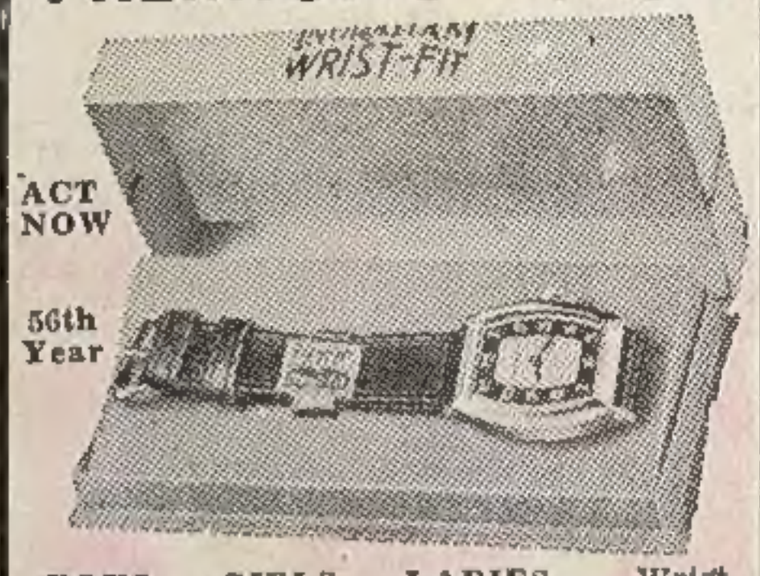

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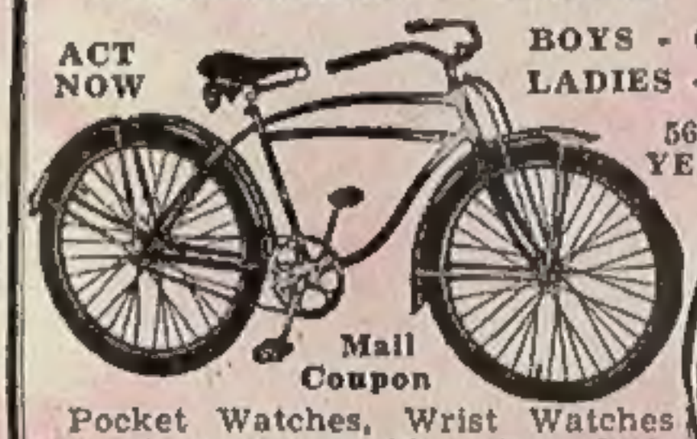
Premiums - Cash Commission

ACT NOW

BOYS - GIRLS
LADIES - MEN

56th YEAR

BE FIRST



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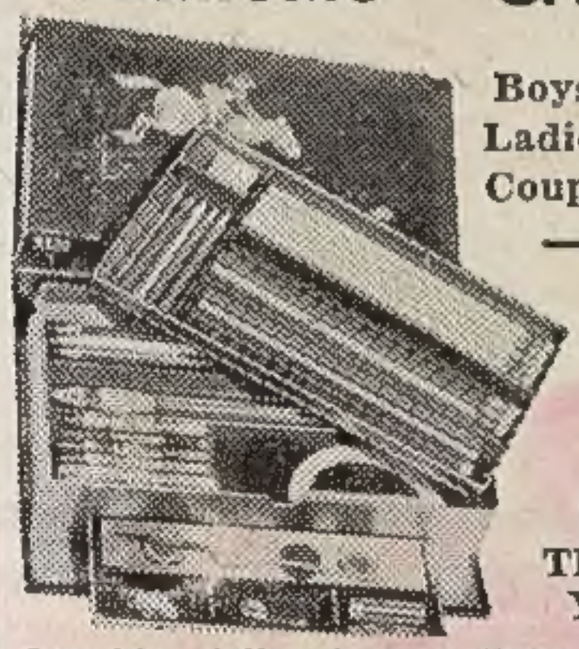

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KING of the VAMPIRES

DOWN THROUGH THE AGES HAS COME THE LEGEND OF THE FATEFUL **VAMPIRE**.. WEIRD -- UNEARTHLY -- STRIKING OUT OF THE MIONIGHT GLOOM FOR ITS HAPLESS HUMAN PREY! HERE'S THE SPINE-TINGLING STORY OF AN EERIE BEING FROM OUT OF THE DEPTHS OF THE **UNKNOWN** ITSELF -- A SUPERNATURAL SPECTER THAT WILL LIVE FOREVER IN YOUR MEMORY AS **KING OF THE VAMPIRES!**

IT WAS A LONELY COUNTRY HOUSE THAT TOM WRIGHT AND HIS WIFE SUSAN HAD RENTED --

YOU HAVE A REAL BARGAIN HERE, SIR!

I KNOW, MR. LEROY -- YOU'VE LET US HAVE IT CHEAPLY! BUT THERE HAVE BEEN ODD WHISPERS -- ABOUT THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FORMER TENANTS..

RUMORS, MY DEAR SIR -- SPREAD BY THE IGNORANT PEASANTS HEREABOUT! I'D ADVISE YOU TO **FORGET** THEM!

THAT COLD, DANK PRESENCE -- I'M **AFRAID OF THAT MAN!**

OH, A **BAT!**

THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR IN **THEM**, MRS. WRIGHT! IN FACT -- I FIND THEM QUITE **ATTRACTIVE!**

MAYBE **YOU** DO, MR. LEROY -- BUT THEY GIVE **ME** THE **CREEPS!**

SUDDENLY -- A STRANGELY-PALE AND RIGID GIRL ENTERS --

OH, BY THE WAY, THIS IS **JANE** -- THE MAID YOU ASKED ME TO HIRE!

THANKS, LEROY! I'M SURE SHE'LL BE QUITE COMPETENT!

OUT OF THE NIGHT, published bi-monthly and copyright, 1951, by Creston Publications Corp., 420 DeSoto Ave., St. Louis 7, Missouri. Editorial offices, 45 West 45 St., New York 19, N. Y. Richard E. Hughes, Editor; Frederick H. Iger, Business Manager. Subscription (12 issues), $1.20; single copies, $0.10; foreign postage extra. All characters are fictitious and use of any real names is coincidental. For advertising information, address American Comics Group, 45 West 45 St., New York 19, N. Y. Application for second class entry pending at the Post Office at St. Louis, Missouri. No. 1, February-March, 1951-1952.
Printed in U.S.A.

NEXT DAY--

I WISH I COULD GET THAT STRANGE FEAR OF LEROY OUT OF MY MIND-- HE WAS EVEN NICE ENOUGH TO STOCK THIS PLACE WITH HIS OWN BOOKS! SAY -- WHAT'S ***THIS?***

VAMPIRES IN AMERICA

THE MUSTY PAGES DISCLOSE--

KELLTOWN, OHIO -- THAT'S ***HERE!*** KING OF THE VAMPIRES -- LE ROI -- LE ROI -- ***LEROY! GOOD HEAVENS!***

THE DEADLIEST SPIRIT IN ALL AMERICAN FOLKLORE IS AN ANCIENT FRENCH SPECTER WHO SETTLED HERE OVER A CENTURY AGO, NEAR WHAT IS NOW KELLTOWN, OHIO. HE WAS KNOWN AS ***KING OF THE VAMPIRES*** -- OR, IN THE FRENCH, ***LE ROI DES VAMPIRES.***

TOM, WOULD YOU THINK I WERE CRAZY IF I SUSPECTED MR. LEROY OF BEING -- ***A VAMPIRE?***

I WOULDN'T THINK -- I'D ***KNOW!*** HERE COMES JANE -- DON'T LET ***HER*** HEAR YOU TALKING SUCH NONSENSE!

IT'S ***NOT*** NONSENSE -- I'VE GOT REASONS FOR IT IN BLACK AND WHITE! AND IF IT'S TRUE -- IT WOULD ACCOUNT FOR THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE TENANTS WHO LIVED HERE BEFORE US!

HA -- I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL ***LEROY*** THIS! HE'LL GET A LAUGH OUT OF IT -- I'LL DROP IN ON HIM THIS AFTERNOON!

NO -- ***NOT THAT!***

WHY NOT, JANE? SAY -- ***WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?***

IF YOU GO TO HIM -- YOU -- YOU -- ***ARGH!***

LEROY -- THE HERD -- DON'T -- JOIN IT --

QUICK, TOM -- SHE'S FAINTED!

L-LOOK! SHE'S ***DEAD!*** AND THOSE PUNCTURE MARKS ON HER THROAT -- ***IT'S THE MARK OF THE VAMPIRE!***

PLEASE, NO MORE OF THAT TOMFOOLERY AT A TIME LIKE ***THIS!*** LEROY'S GOT A PHONE -- I'D BETTER USE IT TO NOTIFY THE AUTHORITIES!

NO, PLEASE-- NOT *LEROY!* NOT AFTER ALL *THIS!*

GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF, SUE! HE'S JUST A HARMLESS GUY-- AND JANE'S HAD A HEART ATTACK, THAT'S ALL! NOW-- ***I'M GOING!***

HE-- HE WOULDN'T LISTEN! IF ONLY I COULD ***PROTECT*** HIM-- MAYBE THIS BOOK ON ***VAMPIRES*** CAN GIVE ME SOME HINTS!

BUT INSTEAD-- NOTHING-- EXCEPT A MARGINAL NOTE SCRIBBLED BY SOMEONE WHO MUST HAVE LIVED HERE BEFORE US! AND IT SAYS, *"LEROY MUST BE BEHIND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JANE, THE MAID!"*

MEANWHILE -- AT THE STRANGELY MENACING HOUSE INHABITED BY LEROY --

CAN I-- USE YOUR PHONE, MR. LEROY? SOMETHING SHOCKING'S HAPPENED-- ***JANE'S DEAD!***

WHY, THAT'S TERRIBLE-- ***TERRIBLE!*** ER-- HOW DID IT HAPPEN?

-- AND THEN SHE JUST KEELED OVER! FUNNY THING, THOUGH-- JUST BEFORE SHE DIED, SHE TRIED TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT YOU-- AND YOUR ***HERD!*** WHAT COULD SHE HAVE MEANT?

AH-- NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT! SHE WAS PROBABLY ***DELIRIOUS,*** THAT'S ALL!

SUDDENLY - AMAZINGLY--

WHAT THE-- IT ***CAN'T*** BE! THAT'S JANE NOW-- BUT SHE'S ***DEAD!***

PLEASE-- DON'T EXCITE YOURSELF! IT'S MERELY HER SISTER, WHO WORKS FOR ME!

UH-UH-- I'M NOT BUYING ***THAT!*** I KNOW JANE WHEN I SEE HER, AND THERE'S SOMETHING ***PHONY*** ABOUT ALL THIS! WHERE'S YOUR PHONE?-- I'M CALLING THE ***POLICE!***

AN IMPETUOUS YOUNG MAN-- AND ***RASH!*** I CAN SEE THAT THERE'S NO USE HIDING THE ***TRUTH*** FROM YOU ANY LONGER! YES, THAT ***WAS*** JANE-- WALKING-- YET ***DEAD!***

SHOCKED, AREN'T YOU?-- SO SHOCKED THAT YOU HARDLY KNOW WHERE I'M LEADING YOU! I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO SEE THE **HERD** JANE TRIED TO WARN YOU ABOUT-- **MY HERD!**

MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO MY WIFE'S SUSPICIONS ABOUT YOU, LEROY! BUT I DON'T SCARE EASY, SO GO AHEAD-- **SHOW ME!**

LOOK FOR YOURSELF, FOOL! MY HERD-- BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?

H-HOLY SMOKE! YOU-- **MONSTER!**

STALLS-- AND WITHIN THEM-- CREATURES THAT WERE ONCE HUMAN! DREAD CREATURES THAT NO LONGER LIVED-- BOUND BY SILVER CHAINS TO THE WILL OF A **DEMON FROM BEYOND!**

THESE ARE MY PETS, WRIGHT! YOU CAN SEE **NOW** WHAT HAPPENED TO MY FORMER TENANTS--AND WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO **YOU!**

THEY WERE ONCE PEOPLE, LIVING PEOPLE! WHAT-- HAVE YOU DONE TO THEM?

NOTHING-- EXCEPT MAKE THEM **VAMPIRES**--LIKE **ME!** EACH NIGHT I SEND THEM ABROAD FOR PREY-- AND, LIKE DUTIFUL SLAVES-- THEY BRING IT BACK TO ME!

YOU-- **DEVIL!** BUT YOU'LL NEVER GET **ME**-- OR SUSAN!

THINK NOT? YOU'RE JOINING MY HERD-- **RIGHT NOW!**

OHHH!

POW!

IT WAS **EASY!** HE'LL FEEL MY FANGS NOW-- **THE FIRST STEP IN MAKING HIM ONE OF US!**

THE FOUL DEED IS DONE-- AND MOMENTS LATER--

I-- FEEL STRANGE -- MY THROAT--

AH, BUT SOON YOU'LL BE IMMORTAL-- AND FEAST BENEATH THE MIDNIGHT MOON!

BUT YOU'RE NOT READY TO CHANGE INTO A VAMPIRE **YET!** MEANWHILE, YOU'LL KNOW THE SERVITUDE OF THE SILVER CHAIN!

YOU ARE-- **KING OF THE VAMPIRES--** AND I AM-- **YOUR SUBJECT!**

THEN-- **A STRANGE TRANSFORMATION--**

COME, MY HERD! WE SHALL FLY OVER THE COUNTRYSIDE IN SEARCH OF VICTIMS / AND REMEMBER-- WHAT YOU CAPTURE IS **MINE!**

IS THERE NONE THAT CAN HELP ME--AND RELEASE ME FROM THIS **LIVING DEATH?**

I CAN-- DO NOTHING! HE HAS ME-- IN HIS POWER, TOO!

MEAWHILE-- OUTSIDE--

THOSE HORRIBLE **BATS!** --I WONDER WHERE TOM CAN BE?

AFTER A FRANTIC SEARCH--

OH, TOM, I WAS SO WORRIED-- BUT YOU'RE SAFE / I-- **THOSE CHAINS! WHAT--**

YES, I'M SAFE-- **SAFE!**

AS SUSAN DRAWS CLOSE-- THE VISION OF HIS MASTER!

YOU CAN BE ONE OF US NOW! YOU HAVE BUT TO LUNGE, LET YOUR FANGS STRIKE DEEP-- AND IMMORTALITY IS YOURS!

I'VE GOT TO-- RELEASE YOU!

SO-- GRIPPED BY A STRANGE, DREAD INSANITY--

ARGH!

NO, TOM-- NO! YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR SENSES! IT'S ME-- SUSAN-- YOUR WIFE!

DIMLY, THE THOUGHT PENETRATES-- AND AT THE LAST MOMENT, LOVE CONQUERS THE LURE OF THE VAMPIRE! WITH NORMALCY RESTORED--

THANK HEAVENS, DARLING! I THOUGHT YOU'D LOST YOUR MIND!

I ALMOST DID, SUE-- BUT YOU BROUGHT ME BACK!

NOW TO BREAK THESE CHAINS-- THEY'RE SILVER -- NOT TOO STRONG-- BUT I GUESS I'M TOO WEAKENED! THAT WOODEN STAKE YOU'RE HOLDING-- MAYBE THAT'LL DO IT!

I'LL HAVE TO TRY FAST! THAT GIANT BAT HEADING THIS WAY-- IT'S LEROY!

AS THE FETTERS SNAP..

SO SHE'S HERE! A NEW CONVERT FOR MY HERD, EH?

I KNOW YOU FOR WHAT YOU ARE, KING OF THE VAMPIRES -- AND HOW TO DEAL WITH YOU! I'M NOT AFRAID!

SO YOU WISH TO PIT YOUR PUNY HUMAN STRENGTH AGAINST MINE! HA-HA! FIRST I'LL ATTEND TO MY PETS, AND THEN-- WE'LL SEE!

INTO YOUR STALLS, CATTLE! YOU'LL NEED YOUR REST-- FOR AT NIGHTFALL TOMORROW, WE SHALL WING FORTH AGAIN!

NOW'S OUR CHANCE, SUE-- RUN!

NO-- WHILE HE LIVES, HE'LL ALWAYS BE A MENACE TO US! BUT TOGETHER-- MAYBE WE CAN DEFEAT HIM!

MY EARS ARE SHARP, LITTLE ONE-- I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID! YOU-- DEFEAT ME! WITH WHAT! NO WEAPON CAN AFFECT ME! WITH SUBJECTS LIKE YOU TO SERVE ME-- I SHALL LIVE FOREVER!

YOU MAY BE KING OF THE VAMPIRES-- BUT YOU'VE NO CONTROL OVER ME!

NO! PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE FEEL OF MY FANGS-- NOW-- AND YOU'LL BE MY SLAVE!

QUICKLY SUSAN REACHES INTO HER POCKETBOOK, AND--

--WITHDRAWS A WEAPON THAT NO VAMPIRE CAN WITHSTAND--!

SEE YOURSELF FOR WHAT YOU ARE, DEMON-- AND CRINGE! I'VE BEEN READING UP ON VAMPIRES SINCE I FIRST SUSPECTED YOU-- AND LEARNED OF THE TERROR A MIRROR CAN STRIKE INTO YOUR KIND!

NO-- NO! I MUST NEVER SEE MY REFLECTION! TAKE IT-- AWAY!

THEN-- JANE READIES THE SECOND PART OF HER PLAN--

QUICK, TOM-- WHILE HE'S STILL STAGGERED! DRIVE THIS OAK STAKE THROUGH THE MONSTER'S HEART-- OR YOU'LL REMAIN FOREVER UNDER HIS INFLUENCE!

I-- CAN'T! IT'S COMING BACK NOW-- THE AWFUL HYPNOTIC INFLUENCE WHICH HIS FANGS HAVE WROUGHT OVER ME!

AH, YOU SEE-- HE'S STILL UNDER MY CONTROL, AND ALWAYS WILL BE! MIGHT AS WELL PUT THAT MIRROR AWAY-- YOU'VE LOST, MY DEAR!

NO! IT WILL HOLD YOU OFF-- WHILE I GO ON FIGHTING TO THE END, VAMPIRE!

THEN IT BEGAN-- THE STRANGE AND EERIE CONTEST FOR A SOUL--

I HELPED YOU SHAKE OFF HIS INFLUENCE ONCE, TOM-- AND WE'VE GOT TO DO IT AGAIN-- FOR KEEPS! IF YOU LOVE ME AND OUR LIFE TOGETHER--

USE THIS STAKE!

YES, OBEY YOUR MASTER-- USE IT ON HER! HEAR MY VOICE-- AND ACT!

GOOD BATTLED EVIL IN A DEADLY DUEL, UNTIL-- WITH A MIGHTY EFFORT--

YOU CAN'T-- MAKE ME KILL WHAT I LOVE-- YOU MONSTER!

NO, DON'T! I'LL GRANT YOU WEALTH, IMMORTALITY! I'LL--

ARGH!

AFTER 500 YEARS-- KILLED-- BY A MERE HUMAN! AND ONLY BECAUSE -- A WOMAN IN LOVE -- LEARNED-- THAT AN OAKEN STAKE THROUGH THE HEART-- STILLS A VAMPIRE FOREVER!

IT-- IT'S ALL OVER! I'M FREE AT LAST!

AND WITH THE DEATH OF THEIR FIENDISH MASTER, LEROY'S "HERD" BECAME--

-- DUST! THEY'VE CRUMBLED INTO NOTHING-NESS!

THEY WERE KEPT ALIVE ONLY BY HIS WILL.. POOR DEVILS! BUT NOW THEY'VE FOUND PEACE AT LAST!

NEXT DAY--

HEY! WHAT IS THIS! YOU AND YOUR CRAZY STORIES ABOUT VAMPIRES! WE COULDN'T FIND ANY CORPSES THERE -- AND THERE WAS JUST A HEAP OF DUST IN THE BARN!

ER-- PERHAPS MY HUSBAND WAS JUST OVER-EXCITED-- AND HAD A NIGHTMARE!

LATER--

I-- I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK ANYMORE-- MY HEAD'S IN A WHIRL

..WAS IT JUST A DREAM, SUE?

I HAD TO TELL THE SERGEANT THAT! HE'D NEVER BELIEVE THE TRUTH! AND IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT-- JUST TRY DREAMING AWAY THIS SILVER CHAIN!

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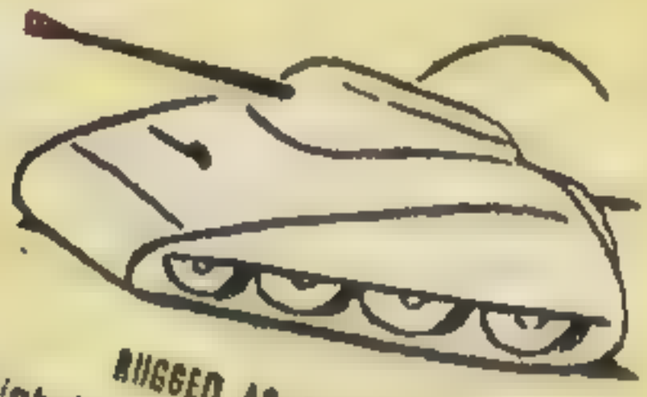

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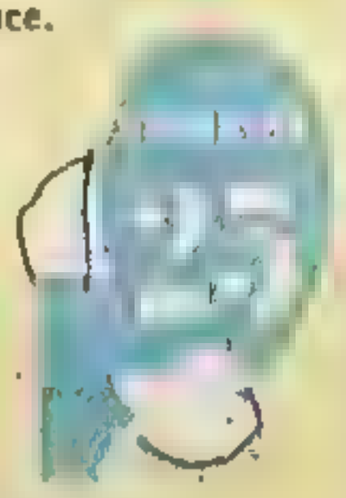

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The WALKING LEG

"MY LEG," CROAKED Vanpoll, "what did you do with my leg?"

One of the doctors gathered around the old magician's bedside murmured wonderingly, "Amazing vitality or will...the operation was only completed half an hour ago, and here he's already come out of the anaesthetic!"

"My leg," cried Vanpoll again, peering up at the doctors from his hospital bed. "Where is it?"

"We had to amputate," the second doctor said soothingly. "From the knee down. There were too many bullets in it...it was already more than half shot off..."

"Fools," the old magician shouted, "I *know* you amputated...*but what did you do with the leg?*"

"Oh...well, we usually...er, dispose of such objects in the hospital incinerator. But we haven't done so in your case yet, since the operation was only just performed..."

"You *mustn't* destroy it!" The old man's voice was a high-pitched shriek now. "You've got to *bury* it...*BURY* it, I tell you. In a regular coffin... and put a shoe on the foot! You've GOT to!"

"All right, sir," the first doctor said gently. "We promise to follow your wishes...but only if you lie down and rest...rest..."

Vanpoll sank back against the pillows again, a crooked smile twisting his lips. "Yes, *I* can rest now. But my leg will know no rest, until..."

The police lieutenant who had been outside the door of the hospital room now came forward. "I heard voices. Is he awake...can he answer questions?"

"Eh, what's that?" Vanpoll said, peering up at the officer from beneath his shaggy white brows. "What kind of questions?"

Lt. Conroy pressed closer to the bed, pad and pencil at the ready. "About your assailants, sir. As I understand it, two gunman accosted you as you left the Lyceum Theatre at midnight with the weekly receipts from your magician's show...and when you resisted, they fired a tommy-gun burst at you and fled with the money. But did you get a good look at them...can you describe them? We'll need *something* to go on before we can put out a dragnet and try to catch those gunmen..."

Vanpoll waved a hand airily at the officer and closed his eyes peacefully. "No, I couldn't tell you what they looked like...but you needn't try to catch them. My *leg* will find them...my *leg* will avenge me!"

"Delirious," one of the doctors whispered. "We'd better let him get some sleep. I'll see to it that his leg gets buried in the hospital cemetery tonight... if he finds out later that we didn't live up to our promise about it, he's liable to go mad with rage."

Vanpoll slept soundly the rest of that night. Towards dawn, a smile of satisfaction crept over his face...at the exact moment that terrified shrieks were sounding from the cellar of an abandoned warehouse at the other end of town.

A passing police car investigated the screams of inhuman fear and agony...and the officers found two men lying on the floor of the cellar, dying from savage blows around the head and face. With their dying breaths, all they could gasp out was, "The leg...the leg...!"

When the officers returned to headquarters with their report, and with the bag of money and the guns they had found in the cellar, Lt. Conroy was just going off duty. "So those gunmen were raving about a leg, eh?" he said thoughtfully. "Come on, boys...we're going to visit a cemetery!"

An hour later, looking down at Vanpoll's exhumed leg, Lt. Conroy murmured in awe, "The...the shoe was clean when they buried it...but now its toe is caked with dried blood and human hair!"

THE RETURN OF THE WEREWOLF

THIS IS THE STORY OF A FIEND THAT CAME BACK...KNOWING THAT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT WOULD BE THE SIGNAL FOR COFFINS TO OPEN....WITH TWO HELPLESS VICTIMS-WATCHING THE GRISLY REUNION! BUT NEITHER COFFINS NOR VICTIMS ARE THE **REAL** REASONS FOR **THE RETURN OF THE WEREWOLF....** WHEN IT SEEKS A THING IT CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT!!!

ONE EVENING....

HONEY, I KNOW YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD A YEN FOR A FUR PIECE..... AND I LIKE TO PRODUCE!

OH, DAVE.... YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE! NOT ON THE SALARY YOU DRAW AT THE MUNICIPAL TAX OFFICE!

GOOD HEAVENS—IT'S NOTHING BUT A **WOLF SKIN!**

GOSH, GINNY.....I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D TAKE ME SERIOUSLY! I BROUGHT IT FOR A GAG!

AFTER ALL...IT LOOKS ALMOST LIKE NEW.... EVEN IF IT **IS** CHEWED UP IN PLACES!

DARLING.....DON'T MAKE ANY EXCUSES! IT'S THE ONLY FUR PIECE **I'LL** NEED.. ....UNTIL WE'RE MARRIED AND CAN AFFORD SOMETHING BETTER!

THAT NIGHT.....

AAOOOOO!

FUNNY THAT THE WIND SHOULD SEEM TO **HOWL**....JUST BE-CAUSE I'VE GOT THAT SILLY WOLF PELT AROUND!

ANYWAY.....IT'S PAST MIDNIGHT! I'D BETTER LOCK THE WINDOWS AND GET TO BED!

OHH!

IT'S HERE! AND IT'S MINE!—**MINE!**

HEAVENS—! THERE'S WHERE I PUT THE WOLF-SKIN!!

IT'S CHANGING.....INTO SOMETHING EVEN **MORE** HIDEOUS! IT--IT'S DONNED THE WOLF-PELT!

AHHHH!

I KNOW THIS ISN'T A NIGHTMARE! YOU'RE SOMETHING UNHOLY— BUT YOU'RE **ALIVE!**

YES....FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A HUNDRED YEARS! IT WAS **THEN** THAT I DIED..... AND LOST MY PELT!

THERE IS ONLY **ONE** THING THAT CAN KILL A WEREWOLF....AND ONLY ONE WAY THE PACK CAN SAVE ITSELF FROM SHARING HIS DOOM! THEY LEAP AT HIS FINAL GASP....**RIPPING OFF HIS PELT WITH QUICK SLASHES OF THEIR TERRIBLE FANGS!!**

IT'S FANTASTIC...IT'S CRAZY...IT COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED!!

BUT IT DID HAPPEN....TO ME! WHAT YOU SAW ENTER HERE WAS BURIED AS A HUMAN.....BUT A WERE-WOLF WHOSE PELT HAS BEEN TORN FROM HIS BODY BY HIS OWN PACK REMAINS BURIED ONLY A HUNDRED YEARS! THEN HE CAN RISE AGAIN.....RECLAIM HIS PELT.....

...AND SEEK HIS PREY!

DON'T TOUCH ME!

IN THE NEXT SECOND....

OHH!

GARRGH

WITH THE UNEARTHLY CREATURES PURSUING....

THEY'RE NOT GOING TO GET ME....I'M NOT GOING TO BE THEIR VICTIM....IF I HAVE TO FLEE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!!

GINNY REACHES HER CAR JUST IN TIME.....

HEAVEN KNOWS WHETHER THEY CAN FOLLOW ME...BUT I'M GOING TO DRIVE AS FAST AS I CAN GO..... FOR HOURS...UNTIL I'M READY TO DROP!

NEXT MORNING, AT CITY HALL—

GINNY! GREAT GUNS, WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK HALF DEAD!

I'VE BEEN DRIVING, DAVE..... DRIVING ALL NIGHT..... TO GET AWAY FROM **THEM!**

YOU'RE WITHIN INCHES OF COMPLETE HYSTERIA! BEFORE YOU SAY **ANYTHING**, HONEY....I'M PHONING DR. PARKER DOWN IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR A SEDATIVE!

MINUTES LATER....

THIS IS POWERFUL STUFF, GINNY! YOU WON'T NEED MORE THAN ONE DROP.... BUT YOU'D BETTER TAKE IT!

DAVE...I'D RATHER WAIT! RIGHT NOW, THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT....**WHERE DID YOU GET THAT WOLF PELT!??**

THAT WAS PART OF THE STUFF TAKEN FROM AN OLD MANSION ON BLACK ROCK ROAD! NO TAXES HAD BEEN PAID ON THE PROPERTY FOR A HUNDRED YEARS....SO WE SENT WORKMEN AROUND TO PICK UP THE FURNISHINGS TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION! NO ONE BID FOR THE WOLF SKIN.... SO I THOUGHT **I'D** BUY IT, STRICTLY FOR LAUGHS!

UNPAID TAXES—FOR A **HUNDRED YEARS!** THAT'S HOW LONG **HE'S** BEEN DEAD, DAVE—**THE WEREWOLF WHO CAME FOR THAT PELT!**

WEREWOLF! MY GOSH, GINNY, YOU **ARE** IN A STATE! GRANTING THERE **ARE** SUCH THINGS, OUR WORKMEN WENT ALL THROUGH THE OLD HOUSE—WOULDN'T **THEY** HAVE FOUND SOMETHING?

OUTSIDE—UNNOTICED IN THE MORNING HAZE THAT CREEPS AMONG THE SHRUBBERY——..

BUT DAVE.....**YOU** REMEMEMBER SAYING THE WOLF SKIN LOOKED **CHEWED UP!** AFTER A WHOLE CENTURY, IT SEEMED ALMOST **NEW....EXCEPT FOR THE FANG MARKS OF THE PACK!**

HONEY....YOU'VE GOT TO TRY TO FORGET ABOUT THAT PELT! I WON'T SEE YOU UNTIL TOMORROW..... BECAUSE TONIGHT I WANT YOU TO TAKE SOME OF THAT SEDATIVE.... AND SLEEP OFF YOUR JITTERS!

COULD A CREATURE LIKE **ME** HOPE FOR ANYTHING BETTER? NOT ONLY WILL SHE BE **ALONE**... BUT HER DRUGGED SLUMBER WILL REMAIN UNBROKEN..... **UNTIL SHE FEELS MY FANGS!**

THAT NIGHT, AT THE MUNICIPAL CLUB—...

HI, DAVE! HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND HERE SINCE YOU STARTED GOING STEADY WITH GINNY!

SHE'S A LITTLE UNDER THE WEATHER TONIGHT, FRANK! COME TO THINK OF IT....**YOU** DON'T LOOK SO HOT, EITHER!

IT'S MY NERVES, DAVE! MY HELPERS AND I HAVEN'T BREATHED A WORD ABOUT THIS TO ANYONE .....BUT WE GOT QUITE A JOLT WHEN WE CLEANED OUT THAT OLD PLACE ON BLACK ROCK ROAD THE OTHER DAY! IT MAY SOUND QUEER.... BUT THERE'S **ONE** ROOM WE DIDN'T TOUCH.. ..... BECAUSE ***NONE OF US HAD ENOUGH NERVE TO OPEN THE DOOR!***

WHAT ARE YOU DRIVING AT, FRANK? COME TO THE POINT!

YOU SAW THAT WOLF SKIN! WELL, IT WAS RIGHT OUTSIDE **THAT** DOOR!..... AND JUST AS I PICKED IT UP....**WE HEARD SOMETHING!** THEY COULDN'T HAVE BEEN **DOGS**, DAVE .....BUT THERE WERE THINGS SOMEWHERE BEYOND THAT DOOR....**HOWLING!**

HOLY MACKEREL!

CAN'T SAY I BLAME THE GUY..... HE MUST THINK I'M NUTS!

MINUTES LATER..

I COULDN'T CONVINCE DAVE ABOUT THE WEREWOLF... BUT AS MUCH AS I NEED IT, I WOULDN'T **DARE** TAKE ANYTHING TO HELP ME SLEEP!

GOOD HEAVENS!

S-SZ AM!

GINNY...WHAT HAPPENED?

DAVE—THE WEREWOLF! IT WAS HERE AGAIN..... JUST A SECOND AGO!

HONEY, AT THIS STAGE I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE..... BUT FOR MY OWN PEACE OF MIND....I'M LOOKING OVER THAT HOUSE ON BLACK ROCK ROAD!!

I'M GOING ALONG, DAVE! I CAN'T STAY HERE BY MYSELF...AND NEITHER DO I WANT YOU TO GO ALONE TO A PLACE LIKE BLACK ROCK ROAD!

WHAT A STROKE OF LUCK! TWO VICTIMS....AND ACTUALLY COMING TO THE PLACE THEY'LL NEVER LEAVE ALIVE!

THEN...UNAWARE OF THE WEREWOLF SPEEDING LIKE THE WIND AHEAD OF THEIR CAR.....

I STILL HAVEN'T TAKEN ANY OF THIS SEDATIVE, DAVE.....BUT MAYBE I'LL WISH I HAD BEFORE THE NIGHT'S OVER!

A HALF-HOUR LATER....

THE MOONLIGHT'S STREAMING INTO MOST OF THE ROOMS...BUT JUST THE SAME.... IT'LL BE PRETTY SPOOKY LOOKING THROUGH A PLACE THIS BIG!

WE WON'T BOTHER WITH THE EMPTY ROOMS, GINNY! WHAT I'M INTERESTED IN IS THE DOOR FRANK AND HIS MEN WERE AFRAID TO OPEN!

THEN...WITH THE HOLLOW THUD OF THEIR FOOTSTEPS ECHOING AGAINST THE MILDEWED WALLS....

GUESS THIS MUST BE IT, HONEY..... BUT AS FAR AS I CAN MAKE OUT..... THERE'S NOTHING IN THIS ROOM, EITHER!

HAA! NOTHING YOU CAN SEE...BUT STEP IN....JUST A FEW INCHES!!

SUDDENLY..

EEEEEEK

HEY!!

IN THE NEXT INSTANT.....

CRASH!

THAT'S WHERE THE LIGHT IS COMING FROM, DAVE....A ROW OF GLOWING COFFINS!

WAIT A MINUTE..... WHAT'S THAT?

HAHA HAHA

DAVE...THERE HE IS!!

I THOUGHT YOU TWO WOULD LIKE TO BE CONVINCED ...THOSE ARE THE COFFINS IN WHICH MY PACK TOOK REFUGE ..... WHEN I DIED A HUNDRED YEARS AGO! NOW THAT I HAVE RETURNED, THE WOLVES USE THEM AS A RESTING PLACE.... UNTIL I SUMMON THEM AT MIDNIGHT!

DON'T LET THIS CREEP GET YOU, HONEY! IF HE DIED ONCE... IT CAN HAPPEN AGAIN!

HA-HA-HA!! THINGS WILL NEVER BE LIKE THEY WERE IN 1852.. WHEN A WAVE OF RABIES RAGED AROUND BLACK ROCK!

THEN WE WERE AFRAID TO ROAM...WITH PEOPLE EVERYWHERE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR STRAY DOGS! A HOWLING PACK WOULD BE SURE TO ATTRACT ATTENTION.. ...SOMEONE MIGHT HAVE TRACED US HERE ..... AND FOUND A WAY TO EXTERMINATE US! I FEARED TO TAKE SUCH A RISK.....AND AS THE LONG NIGHTS DRAGGED ON .... I STARVED TO DEATH!

THAT I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SEEN, CREEP!

YOU WON'T... BECAUSE I'M NOT STARVING THIS TIME! WE'VE GOT OUR PREY... AND I'LL BE BACK AT MIDNIGHT TO HELP THE PACK TEAR YOU APART!!

AS THE MINUTES TICK ON....LIKE THE NEARING FOOTSTEPS OF HORROR .....

IT'S 11:58! NOW I'VE GIVEN UP HOPE, DAVE..... EVEN FOR A MIRACLE!

BABY....I'M NOT SO SURE OF THAT! LET'S HAVE THAT BOTTLE, QUICK.. ...THE ONE WITH THE SEDATIVE COMPOUND!

DAVE, IT'S NO USE! THERE MAY BE ENOUGH BARBITURATE IN THAT VIAL TO KILL A **HUMAN BEING**... ...BUT IT'S NOT GOING TO STOP A **WEREWOLF!**

TIME'S RUNNING OUT, GINNY! GET BACK—AWAY FROM THE TRAP DOOR... **AND AWAY FROM THOSE COFFINS!**

A SECOND LATER... AS THE FATEFUL TOLLING OF MIDNIGHT SOUNDS FROM A DISTANT TOWER.....

AOOOOO

IN A SUDDEN RUSH.....

WHILE I STILL HAVE A CHANCE, CREEP— **HERE'S** SOMETHING THAT'LL GET YOU! A THRUST OF MY PEN--INJECTING YOU WITH THIS LIQUID--

FOOL! DO YOU THINK **THAT** WILL HELP YOU? PUMP ARSENIC INTO MY VEINS— OR ACID— **NOTHING** CAN KILL ME BUT **STARVATION!**

MAYBE NOT...BUT DOES THE **PACK** KNOW THAT? IF YOU **WERE** REALLY DYING, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY THEY COULD FIND OUT.. ...**BY SENSING YOUR LOWERED PULSE!**

WELL, CREEP.....YOUR PULSE **IS** FADING AFTER THAT **OVERDOSE OF SEDATIVE**....AND AS FAR AS THOSE WOLVES ARE CONCERNED.... ***YOU'RE DYING!***

THEY'RE **GROWLING** AT ME! BUT IT'S A ***MISTAKE*** ....I HAVE AN **ETERNITY** TO LIVE AS LONG AS PREY ABOUNDS.....

BUT NEXT MOMENT..

POW

WHAM!

GARRRGH!

GARRRGH!!

THEN, IN A SWIRL OF FUR AND FANGS—

GRRRR

NO--DON'T! YOU WITLESS BRUTES... IT'S A TRICK!

DAVE...IT'S HORRIBLE! THEY'RE RIPPING THE FUR FROM HIS BODY..**INCH BY INCH!**

YEP....ONLY **THIS** TIME, HE WON'T REVIVE AFTER A HUNDRED YEARS AND CLAIM HIS PELT! **THAT** COULD HAVE HAPPENED ONLY IF HE'D BEEN **DYING** WHEN THE WOLVES ATTACKED..... AND SINCE HE **WASN'T....THEY'RE ACTUALLY TEARING HIM APART!**

AAAAGHH!

SECONDS LATER....RISING FROM THE TANGLED MASS OF SHAPELESS FUR....

GR-RR!

.....AS THE LEADERLESS WOLVES LEAP FORWARD..

DON'T BE AFRAID, GINNY! THEY'RE RETURNING TO THEIR COFFINS....**AND I'M SURE OF WHAT WE'LL FIND INSIDE!**

AS AN AIR OF PEACE DESCENDS OVER THE MANSION... LIKE THE FINAL LIFTING OF A CURSE.....

DAVE, THERE'S **NOTHING!** **ONLY A HANDFUL OF DUST-- IN HIS COFFIN!**

ABOUT ALL YOU COULD **EXPECT**, HONEY...CONSIDERING IT'S THE REMAINS OF A CREATURE THAT TOOK REFUGE IN DEATH **A HUNDRED YEARS AGO!**

THANK GOODNESS IT'S OVER, DAVE! **NOW** I CAN SHIVER JUST BECAUSE I'M **COLD!**

BABY, I'M GOING TO GET YOU A COAT.... A **WARM** COAT...BUT YOU CAN BET YOUR LIFE IT WON'T BE **FUR!**

THE END

OUT of the NIGHT... TO YOU!

GREETINGS, READER!

This is a big, an important moment to us...for it marks our first meeting with the very public that has so long demanded the issuance of this great new comics magazine. At first glance, it might appear that there was no shortage of publications of this type...for many purport to deal with the supernatural. Closer investigation, however, reveals that the sole claim to recognition extended by many of them was a mere preoccupation with reasonless terror. There was not enough here, we felt, upon which to base an enduring magazine...one which would capture and hold the interest of intelligent readers who demanded the *best*. Such readers, we knew, required stories of genuine merit, imaginatively conceived by top-flight writers. They were entitled to high quality illustration, brilliantly effective color work. And lastly, they rated a respect on the part of the publishers for the great and challenging realm of the supernatural upon which this new magazine is based.

You'll find the best, we are certain, in *"Out of The Night"*. For we, just as you, are fans of that great, unknown realm which lies beyond the borders of man's knowledge. All our lives, we've thrilled to gripping tales of the supernatural. Midnight has been our magic hour...the open sesame to strange and secret stories of the spirit world. Often we've given our imagination full sway...and shuddered delightfully at adventures thronging with ghosts, werewolves, vampires, zombies. The weird wail of the wind has wakened eerie echoes within us, and the dark of night, with a broken wrack of cloud drifting across the face of a pallid moon, has seemed but an uncanny passport to a land of spine-tingling fancy.

You'll find all of this...and more...in *"Out of The Night"*. We've drawn upon a rich and fulsome background in bringing you this great new publication. Into it has gone all of the fruitful experience garnered throughout the years during which we have issued *"Adventures Into The Unknown"*... America's first comics magazine of the supernatural. To that we have added everything we've learned in our other fine companion publication...*"Forbidden Worlds"*. And the result, we feel, is a magazine tailor-made to *your* specifications. You'll find the proof in this, our first issue. *"King of the Vampires"* is an eerie tale of spectral beings that flit by night. *"Return of the Werewolf"* is laden with out-of-this-world thrills. Then there's *"Time of Terror"*, a strange and gripping story that will make you wonder each time you hear the tick of a clock. And *"Noose of Pearls"*, a ghostly account you'll remember forever.

They're all yours, and we want you to like them. But we want to know your opinion, and what you'd wish to see in future issues. Won't you write in and tell us? If there's space, we'll try to print your letter. Address it to *The Editor, "Out of The Night"*, 45 West 45th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

TIME of TERROR

TIME IS THE MOST MYSTERIOUS OF ALL DIMENSIONS -- ONE WHICH ONLY A FEW MASTERS OF MYSTICISM CAN CONTROL! BUT THERE IS ONE INSTRUMENT WHICH SEES ALL AND KNOWS ALL THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT HAPPENINGS IN TIME -- AND IF A **CLOCK** COULD BUT TELL THE TERRIBLE EVENTS ITS FACE HAS WATCHED IN THE DARK, SECRET HOURS OF THE NIGHT, WHAT A **TIME OF TERROR** IT WOULD BE!

I'D SAY HE WAS KILLED ABOUT THREE IN THE MORNING, INSPECTOR WALTON!

HMM, THAT JIBES WITH THE FACT THAT THE BULLET STOPPED THE CLOCK JUST AFTER THREE -- THE KILLER MUST HAVE MISSED DALEY ON THE FIRST SHOT! WELL, THE NEXT STEP IS TO INVESTIGATE THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD HAVE PROFITED BY HIS DEATH -- HIS BUSINESS PARTNER, JOHN FORSYTHE!

YES, IT'S TRUE THAT DALEY AND I HAVE BEEN HAVING A LOT OF ARGUMENTS LATELY, AND THAT I TAKE OVER THE WHOLE BUSINESS NOW! BUT I **COULDN'T** HAVE KILLED HIM -- BECAUSE AT 3 A.M., I WAS PLAYING POKER WITH FOUR CLOSE FRIENDS -- AND IT'S AN ALIBI YOU'LL **NEVER** BREAK DOWN IN COURT!

HOW DID HE KNOW THE HOUR THE MURDER TOOK PLACE -- WHEN THE NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO HAVEN'T EVEN REPORTED THE CASE YET? THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT..

DALEY & FORSYTHE STOCKS & BONDS

IF ANYONE ON THE FORCE KNEW I WAS GOING TO CONSULT AN OCCULT HOROLOGIST ABOUT THE CASE, THEY'D THINK I WAS ***NUTS!*** BUT LI SUNG HAS HELPED ME IN DOZENS OF CASES EVER SINCE I SAVED HIS LIFE IN A TONG WAR-- ***HE'S*** THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR MY RAPID RISE FROM ROOKIE COP TO DETECTIVE-INSPECTOR! AND ***THIS*** CASE OUGHT TO BE RIGHT UP HIS ALLEY!

LI SUNG HOROLOGIST

...AND I'VE GOT A STRONG HUNCH THAT JOHN FORSYTHE KNOWS MORE ABOUT THIS CASE THAN HE'S TELLING-- BUT NO JURY WOULD BELIEVE MY HUNCH IN THE FACE OF HIS AIR-TIGHT ALIBI! SO I THOUGHT---

SO YOU THOUGHT HOW CONVENIENT IT WOULD BE IF THE **CLOCK** COULD TELL US WHAT IT SAW ON THE NIGHT OF THE MURDER! WELL, MY SON-- THE CLOCK ***WILL*** SPEAK!

FIRST, I WILL REPAIR ITS SHATTERED FACE SO THAT IT MAY SEE AND SPEAK AGAIN-- AND ITS GEARS AND SPRINGS SO THAT IT MAY LIVE ONCE MORE! YOU SEE, WHENEVER HUMANS DIE THROUGH VIOLENCE AND TREACHERY, THEIR OUTRAGED SPIRITS ANIMATE ANY CLOCK THAT HAS VIEWED THEIR MURDER-- BECAUSE A CLOCK IS THE ONLY RECORDING INSTRUMENT THAT CAN COMMEMORATE THE EXACT MOMENT OF THEIR BETRAYAL AND DEATH!

AND THERE IS A MYSTIC WAY OF RELEASING THOSE SPIRITS FROM THEIR CLOCKWORK PRISON-- SO THAT THE SPIRIT CAN REENACT THE SCENE WHEN THE CLOCK STRIKES THE MOMENT OF THE TRAGEDY! BUT ONLY A FEW WISE MEN OF THE EAST KNOW THE ORIENTAL INCANTATION THAT CAN UNLOCK THE ***SECRETS OF TIME!***

MOMENTS LATER, A WEIRD ORIENTAL SING-SONG FILLS THE ROOM WITH AN EERIE CHANT TO THE ALL-SEEING, ALL-KNOWING GODDESS OF TIME...

AND AS THE CHANT FADES AWAY...

THE CLOCK'S STRUCK THREE-- ***THE HOUR OF THE MURDER!*** AND... AND THE INCENSE SMOKE IS BEGINNING TO TAKE ON ***HUMAN SHAPE!***

BONG! BONG! BONG!

THEN-- A GRISLY SIGHT! OUT OF THE CLOCK...

...COMES A REENACTMENT OF TREACHERY AND MURDER!

LOOK-- FORSYTHE'S FIRING AT THE CLOCK TO SET THE TIME OF THE MURDER -- AT AN HOUR THAT HE HAS HIS ALIBI FOR!

THE TRAGEDY HAS BEEN REENACTED-- AND NOW THE ACTORS, THE SPIRITS OF THE MURDERER AND MURDERED, ARE ONCE MORE ENCAGED IN THEIR ETERNAL PRISON-- **UNTIL THE CLOCK STRIKES THREE AGAIN!**

YES, NOW WE **KNOW** THAT FORSYTHE MURDERED HIS PARTNER-- BUT THIS ISN'T **LEGAL** PROOF! IF WE TRIED SHOWING THIS SCENE TO A JURY, THEY'D LAUGH US OUT OF COURT-- THEY'D SAY IT WAS A TRICK OF SOME KIND!

AH, BUT THERE IS ONE WHO WILL **NOT** LAUGH IF THE SCENE IS REENACTED BEFORE HIS EYES-- THE **MURDERER!** IF YOU COULD PLACE THIS CLOCK IN HIS BEDROOM BEFORE THREE IN THE MORNING--YOU MAY SEE **INTERESTING RESULTS!**

THAT NIGHT, OUTSIDE OF JOHN FORSYTHE'S APARTMENT HOTEL.

I DID AS YOU SUGGESTED, LI' WHILE FORSYTHE WAS IN THE OFFICE, I LET MYSELF INTO HIS APARTMENT WITH MY SKELETON KEY-- AND PLACED THE CLOCK UNDER HIS BED!

GOOD-- NOW WE HAVE BUT TO WAIT UNTIL THE CLOCK STRIKES THREE -- THE **TIME OF TERROR** FOR JOHN FORSYTHE!

THOSE...THOSE **CHIMES**--THEY SOUND JUST LIKE THE ONES THAT CAME FROM **DALEY'S** CLOCK THE NIGHT I KILLED HIM! AND... AND THEY SEEM TO HAVE COME FROM UNDER MY BED-- I... I MUST BE GOING BATTY!

BONG! BONG! BONG!

IT... IT **IS** THE CLOCK-- AND... AND THERE'S **DALEY!**

HE... HE'S **HAUNTING** ME-- MAKING ME RELIVE THE MURDER SO THAT I'LL CONFESS! BUT IT **WON'T WORK!** THOSE APPARITIONS CAME OUT OF THE CLOCK-- SO I CAN PROBABLY DESTROY THEM BY DESTROYING THE CLOCK!

I'LL JUST FLING IT OUT THE WINDOW-- IT'S THE QUICKEST WAY! BUT I'LL HAVE TO HURRY---

BUT AS THE MURDERER RUNS TOWARD THE WINDOW...

I...I TRIPPED-- ON **DALEY'S GHOST!**

YAAGHHH!

WELL, EVEN THOUGH NO JURY WOULD HAVE CONVICTED HIM-- HE'S PAID FOR HIS CRIME-- **WITH HIS LIFE!**

YES, AND NOW THAT HIS VICTIM'S SPIRIT HAS BEEN AVENGED, IT CAN ESCAPE FROM THE WRECKAGE OF ITS FORMER PRISON-- AND FIND ETERNAL PEACE WITH ITS ANCESTORS IN THE GREAT BEYOND! JUSTICE-- AND THE GODDESS OF TIME-- **HAVE TRIUMPHED AGAIN!**

THE END

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The NOOSE of PEARLS

OUT OF THE DEAD, FORGOTTEN PAST, THE HORROR CAME -- ITS EYES GLOWING WITH AN UNHOLY LIGHT! OUT OF THE PAST AND INTO THE PRESENT, SEARCHING, THIRSTING FOR TREASURES IT ONCE POSSESSED -- AND GARROTING ALL WHO STOOD IN ITS WAY WITH THE NOOSE OF PEARLS!

LIBBY CAREY'S RISE TO FAME HAD BEEN SWIFT AND DRAMATIC --

GOSH, LIBBY, EVERYWHERE I TURN, I SEE AN AD WITH **YOU** ON IT! IT SORTA SCARES ME, BEING ENGAGED TO THE COUNTRY'S TOP MODEL!

SILLY! AS IF ANYTHING COULD CHANGE MY FEELINGS FOR THE COUNTRY'S TOP REPORTER!

I'M JUST GRATEFUL THAT AT LAST I'VE GOT ENOUGH MONEY SO I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY! AND THE FIRST THING I'M GOING TO DO, NED, IS GET MOM'S AND DAD'S THINGS OUT OF STORAGE! THEY'VE BEEN THERE FOR YEARS -- EVER SINCE THEY DIED!

LIBBY WAS AS GOOD AS HER WORD --

ALL THIS OLD STUFF! HERE ARE THE PORTRAITS OF MY GREAT UNCLE ZEB AND GREAT AUNT SOPHIE! LOOK AT THE FANCY MOTHER OF PEARL FRAMES!

AND LOOK AT THE PEARLS SHE'S ***WEARING!*** IF THEY WERE REAL, THEY MUST HAVE BEEN WORTH A ***FORTUNE!***

THEY'RE REAL, ALL RIGHT! AUNT SOPHIE WAS ALMOST NUTS ON PEARLS-- SHE COULDN'T GET ENOUGH! UNCLE ZEB KEPT BRINGING HER MORE AND MORE! HE WAS A SEA CAPTAIN AND PEARL TRADER IN THE SOUTH SEAS!

WELL, THERE'S NO ACCOUNTING FOR TASTES! ME, I'D RATHER HAVE GOOD HARD CASH!... HOLY SMOKE! HERE'S SOMETHING ELSE FRAMED IN MOTHER OF PEARL-- A FULL-LENGTH MIRROR!

IT USED TO BE AUNT SOPHIE'S! I REMEMBER MOTHER TELLING ME HOW SHE WATCHED AUNT SOPHIE STANDING IN FRONT OF IT AS SHE ARRANGED HER PEARLS!

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KEEP A PIECE OF JUNK LIKE THAT FOR? WHY DON'T YOU GET RID OF IT?

OH, NO! IT ***FASCINATES*** ME!

LONG AFTER NED DEPARTED, LIBBY CONTINUED TO STAND IN FRONT OF THE OLD MIRROR--

FOR A MOMENT, IT ALMOST SEEMED THAT I COULD SEE AUNT SOPHIE'S REFLECTION! MY IMAGINATION IS WORKING OVERTIME-- I'D BETTER GET SOME SLEEP!

IMAGINATION, LIBBY? IF YOUR SLEEP-LOCKED EYES COULD ONLY SEE NOW--

MORE PEARLS! I ALWAYS WANTED MORE PEARLS-- AND NOW **YOU** ARE GOING TO GET THEM FOR ME!

IT WAS A HYPNOTIC SPELL THE STRANGE SPECTER CAST-- AND THE SLEEPING GIRL OBEYED!

MORE PEARLS! GET ME MORE PEARLS!

SHE RETURNED WITHIN AN HOUR WITH--

ANOTHER STRING... AH! AND BEAUTIES, TOO!

NEXT MORNING..

GOODNESS, IT'S ELEVEN O'CLOCK! I'VE NEVER OVERSLEPT LIKE THIS BEFORE! I'LL HAVE TO HURRY TO KEEP MY LUNCHEON DATE WITH NED... FUNNY! I HAVE THE ODDEST FEELING THAT I HAD A STRING OF *PEARLS* IN MY HAND! THE TAG END OF A DREAM, I GUESS!

HERE I AM, HONEY... GOSH, YOU LOOK TIRED!

I AM! THE B[illegible]S GOT ME UP FIVE O'CLOCK TO COVER A JEWELRY STORE ROBBERY! YOU SEE THE STORY?

HOW DREADFUL! WAS THE WATCHMAN KILLED, NED?

FORTUNATELY NOT! HE REPORTED HEARING A NOISE AND GOING TO INVESTIGATE! SUDDENLY HE WAS ATTACKED FROM THE REAR! A ROPE WAS PUT AROUND HIS NECK AND HE WAS STRANGLED INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS! WHEN THE POLICE FOUND HIM, HIS NECK STILL RETAINED A SERIES OF ROUND BRUISES! THEY ARE OF THE OPINION THAT HE WAS CHOKED ***BY A STRING OF PEARLS!***

FAMOUS GALLO PEARLS STOLEN!

ELLIS JEWELRY STORE BROKEN INTO! WATCHMAN MYSTERIOUSLY STRANGLED!

IN THE NEXT TEN DAYS, THE CITY WAS HIT BY AN EPIDEMIC OF ROBBERIES! AND IN EACH CASE, ONLY VALUABLE ***PEARLS*** WERE STOLEN!

NO TRACE

[illegible]L MISSING.

MYSTERY PEARL THIEF STRIKES AGAIN!

SENATOR REPORTS LOSS OF VALUABLE PEARLS!

LOES

CRACK-PROOF VAULT OF STORE OPENED AND RIFLED

POLIC

WONDERFUL HAVING AN EVENING WITH YOU, DARLING -- IT'S BEEN SO LONG! YOUR BOSS SHOULDN'T WORK YOU SO HARD!

YOU SHOULD SPEAK TO THE PEARL THIEF.. THE ONE WHO'S KEEPING ME BUSY! HE'S SURE GOT EVERYBODY RUNNING IN CIRCLES!

AND NOW I'VE GOT TO BEAT IT TO THE OFFICE!

I'M GOING STRAIGHT TO BED! IT'S ALMOST AS IF I'M NOT GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP -- BUT THAT'S *RIDICULOUS!*

SAY, I'D BETTER GET BACK TO LIBBY'S -- I LEFT MY HAT! AND MY PRESS CARD'S IN IT!

WINDOWS ARE DARK-- SHE MUST HAVE TURNED IN! I'LL SKIP IT-- NO SENSE DISTURBING HER!.. HEY! THAT LOOKS LIKE LIBBY GETTING INTO THAT CAB!

FUNNY! I WONDER WHERE SHE'S GOING? YOU'D THINK SHE WOULD'VE SAID SOMETHING... WHY, SHE TOLD ME SHE WAS GOING STRAIGHT TO BED! I THINK I'LL TRAIL ALONG!

BEYOND CITY LIMITS--

GOOD GRIEF! WHAT'S SHE GETTING OUT HERE FOR?

CITY LIMITS RESUME SPEED

WHY IN THUNDER WOULD LIBBY BE GOING INTO GREGORY MALT'S ESTATE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT -- OR ANYTIME, FOR THAT MATTER?

BAFFLED AND WORRIED, NED RETURNED TO THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE! THEN, AT 4 A.M.:

GET GOING FAST, NED! IT'S HAPPENED AGAIN! GREGORY MALT'S JUST BEEN ROBBED OF HIS NAPOLEON PEARLS!

GREGORY MALT!

THE FOLLOWING MORNING--

BUT, LIBBY, I SAW YOU LEAVE THE APARTMENT AND GET INTO A TAXI! ALL I WANT TO FIND OUT IS WHERE YOU WENT! IT'S VERY IMPORTANT!

I TOLD YOU I WENT STRAIGHT TO BED THE MINUTE YOU LEFT HERE! YOU MUST HAVE SEEN SOMEBODY ELSE! I DON'T LIKE YOUR ATTITUDE ONE LITTLE BIT! YOU CAN LEAVE ANY TIME-- AND TAKE YOUR RING WITH YOU!

THAT NIGHT, AFTER LIBBY HAD CRIED HERSELF TO SLEEP--

GET ME MORE PEARLS! STILL MORE PEARLS!

MEANWHILE, FROM A VANTAGE POINT ACROSS THE STREET, NED WATCHED LIBBY'S HOUSE--

SHE SEEMED TO BE TELLING THE TRUTH WHEN SHE DENIED GOING OUT! MAYBE I'M NUTS PACKING A GUN... BUT THERE'S SOMETHING SCREWY *SOMEWHERE*, AND I MEAN TO FIND OUT WHAT!

THE SCOTT HOUSE! THEY HAVE PEARLS.. *BEAUTIFUL PEARLS!*

IT'S LIBBY!

CAUTIOUSLY, NED FOLLOWED AS LIBBY CROSSED A PARK, APPROACHED A HOUSE..

HOLY SMOKE! SHE'S OPENED A WINDOW IN THE SCOTT PLACE AND GONE IN!

PEARLS ARE INSIDE!-- BEAUTIFUL PEARLS!

I... I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT! *LIBBY*-- THE PEARL THIEF!

THERE SHE GOES! OUT ONTO THE BEACH!

LIBBY! STOP!

SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING, NED FELT SOMETHING COLD AND HARD FASTEN AROUND HIS THROAT AND TIGHTEN -- *TIGHTEN!*

NO . *NO!* *ARGH!*

LATER-- I... I MUST HAVE PASSED OUT! I CAN STILL FEEL THAT COLD, AWFUL THING AROUND MY NECK-- AND NOBODY WAS BEHIND ME... NOBODY VISIBLE! ...LIBBY! WHERE IS SHE?

FILLED WITH DREAD, NED RACED TO LIBBY'S APARTMENT! THERE--

LIBBY!

NED! WHAT DO YOU MEAN, COMING IN LIKE THIS?

I SAW YOU TAKE THE SCOTT PEARLS! BUT THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOMETHING WITH YOU -- SOMETHING HORRIBLE AND INVISIBLE! IT ATTACKED ME-- CHOKED ME...

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I HAVEN'T LEFT THE PLACE! I'VE BEEN HERE ASLEEP! YOU MUST BE DRUNK!

THE PEARLS! WHERE ARE THEY?

I'VE NO PEARLS! IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, SEARCH THE APARTMENT! UNLESS YOU GET HOLD OF YOURSELF, NED, I'LL HAVE TO CALL THE POLICE!

THEY MUST BE HERE SOMEWHERE! SHE HAD THEM!

NED, LOOK! COMING OUT OF THE MIRROR! HELP!

THE... THE PEARL NOOSE... THE...

LIBBY! WHAT'S HAPPENED?

UNABLE TO SEE THE SPECTER OR THE LETHAL ROPE OF PEARLS, NED PLUNGED TO LIBBY'S SIDE! THEN, FOR THE SECOND TIME, HE FELT SOMETHING ENCIRCLE HIS NECK, HEARD A HOLLOW VOICE--

YOU WILL DIE! I SHOULD HAVE KILLED YOU EARLIER!

AWARE THAT HE WAS IN THE GRIP OF SOME SUPERNATURAL FORCE, NED STRUGGLED FRANTICALLY TO LOOSEN THE CHOKING ROPE --

MY GUN...

A FAST GUN-SHOT-- AND THE OLD MIRROR SHATTERED--

CRASH!

IT'S GONE! WHATEVER IT WAS-- IT'S GONE!

I... I SAW HER IN THE MIRROR! IT WAS GREAT AUNT SOPHIE! HER OLD MIRROR LET HER RETURN FROM THE SPIRIT WORLD-- UNTIL ITS DESTRUCTION DESTROYED HER!

IT'S UNBELIEVABLE, BUT SHE MADE YOU STEAL, LIBBY!... LOOK! PEARLS! THEY'RE THE ONES SHE FORCED YOU TO TAKE!

OHH! THEN I...I WAS THE THIEF!

THE FOLLOWING DAY--

WELL, THERE GOES THE LAST OF THE PEARLS, ON THE WAY BACK TO THEIR OWNERS / IT'S BETTER TO DO IT ANONYMOUSLY, LIBBY! NOBODY COULD POSSIBLY BELIEVE THE TRUTH!

I GUESS NOT! I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT MYSELF!

U.S. MAIL

NOW HOW ABOUT TAKING THIS RING BACK, SWEET-HEART?

DARLING, I WANT TO SO MUCH! IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOU, I SHUDDER TO THINK WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO ME!

GOT A NICE BUY HERE, FOLKS...

BEAUTIFUL STRING OF MATCHED POILS...

NOW WHAT'S EATIN' THEM? YOU'D THINK I WAS OFFERIN' 'EM POISON!

1 STRING $1.00

The End

BLACKHEADS "PET HATE"

Say Men, Girls in Choosing Date

What a "black mark" is the blackhead . . . according to men and girls popular enough to be choosy about dates!

"Nobody's dreamboat!" "Nobody's date bait!" And that's not all that's said of those who are careless about blackheads. But blackheads ARE ugly! Blackheads ARE grimy! And they DON'T look good in close-ups!

So can you blame the fellow who says, "Sure, I meet lots of girls who look cute at first glance. But if, on that second glance, I see dingy blackheads, it's *good night!*"

Or can you blame the girl who confesses, "I hate to go out with a fellow who has blackheads. If he's careless about that you're sure he'll embarrass you in other ways, too!"

But you—are YOUR ears burning? Well, you've company and, sad to say, good company. There are lots of otherwise attractive fellows and girls who could date anyone they like if they'd only realize how offensive blackheads are . . . and how easily and quickly they could get rid of them . . . if they *want* to!

"He-Man" Often Guilty of Blackhead Crime

Take your "he-man" . . . super at track, games, sports of all kinds . . . who thinks that after just a shower he's ready to go anywhere! And won't the girls all admire his muscles!

Sure they would! But not many dance floors are set up for hurdle races! You can't show off your snappy left hook when only cokes are in the ring. The "he-man" who's also clean-cut, will get the breaks wherever he is.

Even Cute Girls Become Careless

Easy, too easy, for a girl to think that if she has the latest in clothes and hair-do she needn't bother about blackheads. A little more make-up, she guesses, will take care of that. BUT MAKE-UP WON'T HIDE BLACKHEADS! Not unless it's plaster of paris, maybe! And even good make-up "slips" at a dance! So don't take chances, cute though you may be!

TAKE THESE TIPS TO BANISH BLACKHEADS

Keep skin clean by washing morning and night with warm, almost hot, water. Use good soap and plenty of it. And finish with cool water.

Extract every blackhead as soon as you see it—with a SAFE extractor. Don't use finger nails. Don't squeeze. That may mean infection, injured tissues, a marred skin.

Just be clean! Be quick! And be safe! That's easy! And that's ALL!

NEW! SCIENTIFIC! VACUUM ACTION!

Amazing new VACUTEX is painless . . . safe . . . fast! In seconds you are rid of those ugly blackheads that clog the pores . . . make your skin look grimy and dingy . . . give others such a wrong impression of you. VACUTEX creates a gentle vacuum pressure around the blackhead and extracts it—quickly!—without injury to tender skin tissues. Keep skin always clear this new scientific way. Without painful squeezing! Without dangerous infection from germy fingers! Just place VACUTEX over blackhead and draw back extractor. Blackhead's out! Simple! But you'll be delighted by your instantly improved appearance. Others will notice your clearer, cleaner skin! Try VACUTEX—now!

RUSH COUPON NOW!

10 DAY TRIAL OFFER

Don't send a penny. Mail coupon and pay postman only $1.00 plus postage. Or save all postage by enclosing $1.00 with guarantee coupon. If not thrilled to be rid of embarrassing hated blackheads this new quick way—just return VACUTEX in 10 days and get $1 back. Order today!

No Squeezing
No Infection
No Injury
to Skin
Tissues!

Just place VACUTEX over blackhead—release extractor—and blackhead's out!

10 DAY TRIAL GUARANTEE

BALLCO PRODUCTS COMPANY, Dept. 411
19 West 44th St., New York 18, N. Y.

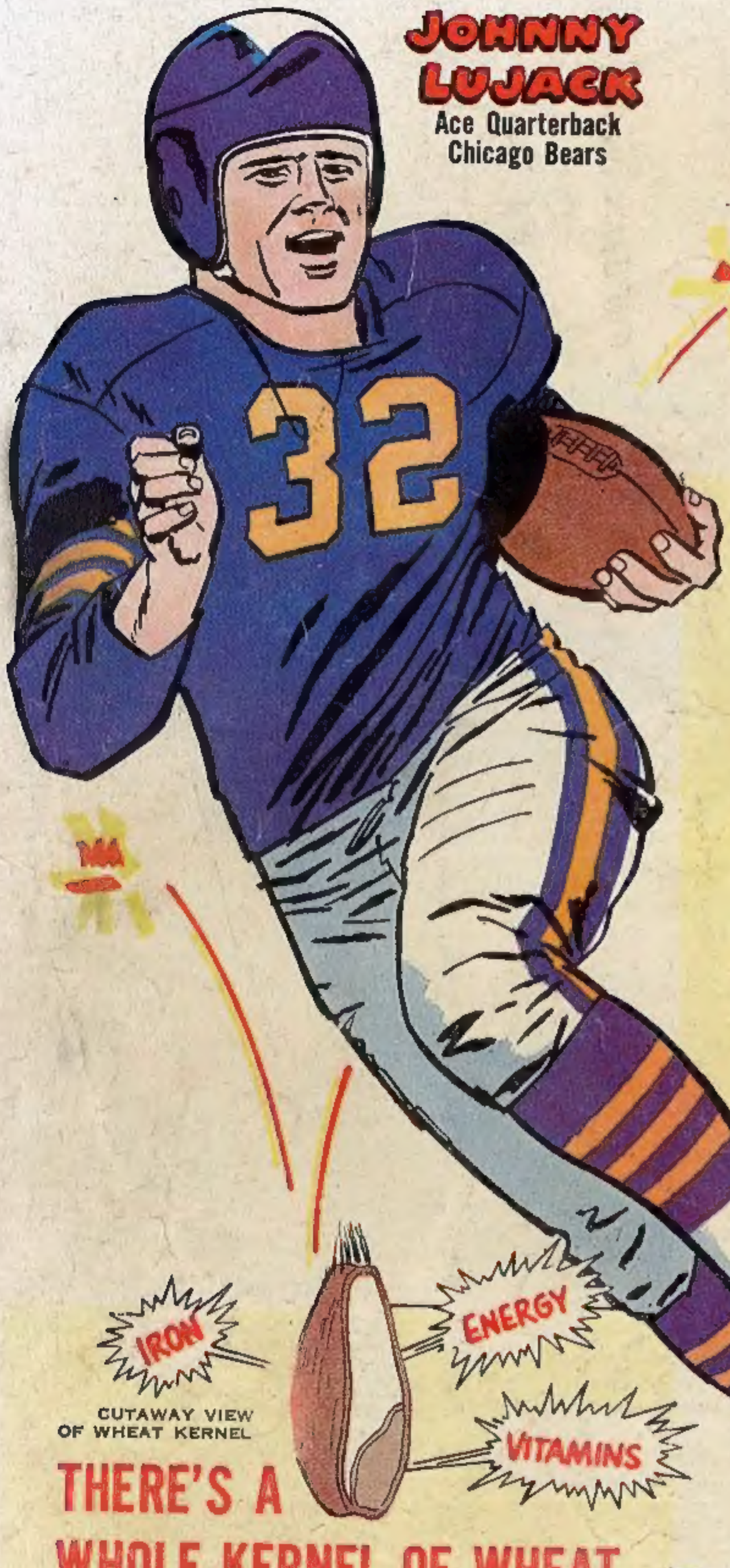
☐ Enclosed find $1.00. Send me VACUTEX postpaid.
☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postman $1.00 plus postage.

My dollar will be refunded if I am not delighted.

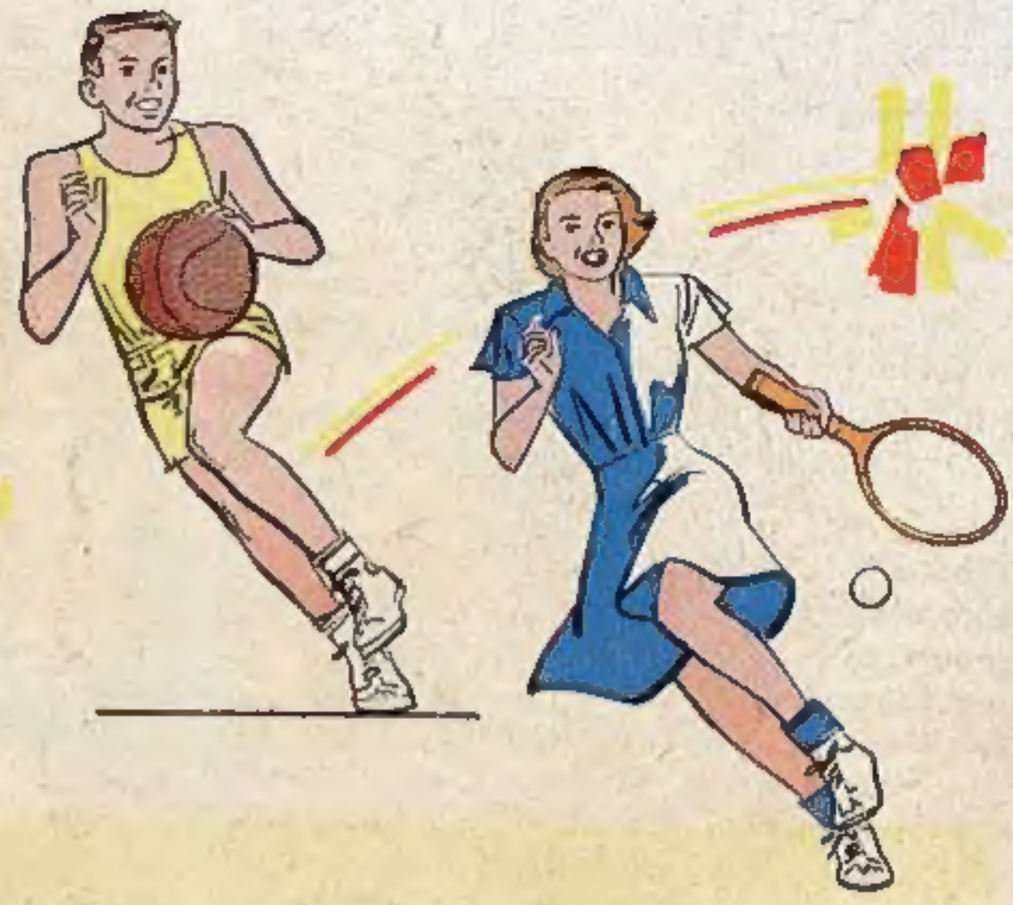
NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

SORRY NO C.O.D. OUTSIDE OF U.S.A.



JOHNNY LUJACK
Ace Quarterback
Chicago Bears



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and Champions choose Wheaties!

CUTAWAY VIEW OF WHEAT KERNEL

THERE'S A WHOLE KERNEL OF WHEAT IN EVERY WHEATIES FLAKE

Hitting the line—or hitting the books—you need lots of energy to see you through. Pour on the wheat-power. Eat lots of Wheaties like the champions do!

"Breakfast of Champions"

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